

2006 ELECTION

I SCHOOL BOARD NO DEPT SCH DIST RES (3)



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As a current member of the Board of Education, I've served as its chair and vice chair, as chair of the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Accountability, and on various BOE committees.

Both of my children are Hawai'i public school graduates – one from Kalani High and one from Kaiser High.

During my tenure on the Board, the DOE has made strides in many areas, including whole-school renovation projects, the Felix Consent Decree, raises for our teachers and administrators, and gains in national test scores. However, many challenges remain and we must focus our attention on increasing the academic achievement level of our students. The Hawai'i State Public Library System has also seen stability and success over recent years.

My top priorities are: ensuring full implementation of the Board's Literacy Policy; providing focused academic support and assistance to at-risk students (including 9th grade and Middle School students); streamlining DOE operations; budget transparency; and increasing library hours for the public.

Professionally, I am of director of external affairs for the East-West Center. I have also worked at the Hawai'i State Judiciary, a large Hawai'i advertising firm, the UH Center for Pacific Islands Studies, and the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council. I taught high school as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Chuuk, Micronesia.

I have an MA in Pacific Islands Studies from UH, and a BA in communication from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.